

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims to read as indicated:

A1
1. (Amended) An implant comprising a body having an inner sheath and at least one outer sheath, each sheath being formed from a different bone and being formed with an exterior surface and an opening defining an interior surface, wherein the exterior surface of each outer sheath contacts the interior surface of no more than one other outer sheath.

A2
40. (Amended) An implant comprising a plurality of sheaths each defining a hole, and a core fit in an innermost of the sheaths, wherein the sheaths are formed from at least two different bones selected from a femur, tibia, humerus, fibula, ulna, and radius.

41. (Amended) An implant comprising at least two layers of bone components coupled to each other, the components together defining at least one securing region, and at least one insertable securing element adapted for placement in the at least one securing region, wherein the implant is formed from at least two different bones.

✓
Please cancel claim 55.

Remarks

Claims 1-54 are pending in this application, including amended claims 1, 40 and 41. Claim 55 has been canceled.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to provisional application no. 60/191,099 filed March 22, 2000.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 14-15, 18, 20, 41, 53 and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,899,939 to Boyce *et al.* ("Boyce"). The Office Action stated:

Boyce discloses a implant comprising inner and outer sheaths formed from different bone wherein the exterior surface of the outer sheath contacts the interior surface of no more than one other sheath (fig.2: 22 and 23), the contacting surfaces of adjacent sheaths being machined surfaces (col.4, lines 47-52)."
(Office Action, Page 2, lines 13-17).